

The road crosses Hills Creek, I am told, just above the three falls, one of which has an unbroken fall of 65 feet. No more rugged or wild gorge can be found in the state. Just to the west of Hills Creek near where the road crosses the stream, there stood an old cabin known as the "Darnell Station" supposed to have been built there during the Civil War by some refugee or counterfitter.

The road runs near the old Nicholas Road, a wagon road built before the civil war and abandoned as a road during the war, and fell into disuse, except that it could still be traversed by footmen when I was a boy.

Just to the west of Hills Creek the road passes through what is known as the ~~Fallen~~ ~~Timber~~. This section was struck by a cyclone sometime prior to the Civil war, and all of the timber was blown down for about twenty miles at a width of about one half mile. It formed one of the finest blackberry fields in all that country, and people rode in there for miles over the old road to pick berries from this weird spot.

Nothing has ever happened to do so much to put Pocahontas on the map as the completion of this road.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Subject Pocahontas county history

Date May 16, 1941

Research Worker Juanita S. Dilley

Date Research Taken _____

Typist Juanita S. Dilley

Date Typed May 12, 1941

Source Court Order books

Date Filed _____

Roads

Surveyors of Roads 1899

Greenbank District-

C. B. Swecker, W.W. Arbogast, John W. Hollen, John P. Townsend,
Wm. C. Gum, French C. Sutton, W. D. Mc. Arbogast, Joseph
McLaughlin, James McLaughlin, Jesse Warwick, Wm. Collins, Jr.,
Willie D. Slavens, James Darnell, Robert L. Brown, John Gragg,
Zach Nottingham, Thomas Houchin, Thomas Moore, Jr., Sandy
Patterson, D. L. Kerr, W. Carpenter, Ananias Puffenbarger,
George D. Houchin, Walter Vint, Isaac Arbogast, R. B. Kerr.

Edray District--

Page Gay, W. L. Gay, Silas Sharp, James E. Wilfong, Godfrey
Geiger, James A. Sharp, Anderson Barlow, William G. Cochran,
E. G. McNeill, Luther Kellison, Joseph B. McNeill, Blake
Adkison, George Miller, George W. McCollam, Andrew McAlpin,
William A. McLaughlin, W. A. Wooddell, Baauregard McClung,
Peter Carr, John A. Young.

Huntersville District--

H. M. Fertig, Samuel Hogsett, J. C. Kelley, Butler Sharp,
Lloyd Reed, L. J. Piles, John A. Cleek, Dennis Dever,
Preston Rexrode, James C. Harper, Charles N. McComb, D. W. S.
Alderman, Willis P. McComb, John H. Shrader, H. P. Patterson,
R. D. Rimel, Wilson Dilley, Amos McLaughlin.

Little Levels District--

Samuel Gladwell, John B. Silva, George Beard, Cameron Clark,
L. S. Cochran, H. M. McCoy, J. B. Grimes, N. C. Rogers, J. M.
McClure, C. J. Hill, John D. Payne, H. N. Clark, Max Woods,
Stark Morrison, Emmett Nottingham, Noah McCoy, Poe Weiford,
C. M. Wallace.

"It is ordered that the time for working the Public Roads of this county be extended to six days for and during the year 1868, beginning on the first day of April 1868 and ending on the first day of October 1868."

After the war, gates across the road had to meet the following specifications: "Be good swinging gates, easily opened and shut by persons either a foot or on horseback, that will neither sag nor drag upon the ground, and which are always to be kept in such condition by the person interested therein."

But this order by the court was not always carried out, and in the 1880's and 1890's people of many sections of the county began to petition for the removal of some of the gates because they found it was hard to get through some of them when carrying a load, or for a lady to swing them open.

In 1892 it was found that 20 gates had been erected across the road leading from Academy (Hillsboro) by way of Lobelia and it was asked that some of them be removed, but the people of that section petitioned the court not to have the gates removed as the people had built the road with very little of the county funds being expended, and they considered it to much of an expense to lane said road which would also cut off some of the best grazing land without water.

In 1901, S. M. Gay made a report on the milage of road in Adray District and found it to be around 113 miles. Marlinton to the top of valley mountain 25 miles, Marlinton to